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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/922,652	08/07/2001	Ronald A. Laskey	620-161	9664

23117 7590 12/07/2005

NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC  
901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR  
ARLINGTON, VA 22203

EXAMINER

NICKOL, GARY B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1642

DATE MAILED: 12/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

***Supplemental* EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

Due to an apparent oversight, the previous examiner's amendment omitted the word "cytology" from the claims that were filed 09-21-2005. A supplemental examiner's amendment to the record appears below, including the changes that were incorporated in the examiner's amendment mailed 11-25-2005. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with B.J. Sadoff on December 2, 2005.

**88. (Currently Amended) A method of determining the presence or absence of dysplastic or neoplastic cells in a test cytology sample containing cells from an individual, wherein the test sample comprises a specimen selected from the group consisting of a sputum sample, a bronchio-alveolar lavage sample, a urine sample, a breast duct fluid sample, a brushing from the alimentary tract, a cervical cytology sample, and a fecal sample, the method comprising:**  
    **contacting the test sample with an antibody or antibody fragment directed against Minichromosome Maintenance protein 2 (MCM2 protein); and**  
    **determining the amount of binding of said antibody or antibody fragment to said test sample;**  
**whereby an increase in said amount is detected for the test sample compared with a normal sample is indicative of presence of dysplastic or neoplastic cells in said test sample.**

Art Unit: 1642

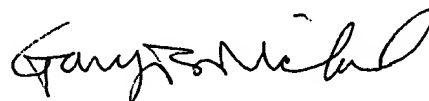
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary B. Nickol Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 8:30-5:30; alternate Fri., 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Siew can be reached on 571-272-0787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gary B. Nickol Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1642

GBN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary B. Nickol", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**GARY B. NICKOL, PH.D.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**